

Principles for Locally Led Adaptation Action

Commitment Form

Name of Organization or Government: Opportunity International

Type of Organization or Government: International NGO Network

Name of Responsible Official: Calum Scott, Global Impact Director

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Date of Commitment: 1st August 2021

Short Commitment Statement:

Please specify how your organization intends to implement, use, or deliver on the Principles for Locally Led Adaptation in 100 words or less. Note this text may be listed on webpage.

Opportunity International has long recognised the value and importance of local decision making in development work, as reflected in our partnership model for financial inclusion. But while financial services can play a significant role in promoting resilience among the most vulnerable, we also recognise that the design and delivery of programs can either help or hinder resilience. We are committed to promoting these principles with our local partners and in particular ensuring a more robust understanding of climate change impacts, risks and uncertainty that will inform the design and deliver of the services we provide to the poor and vulnerable.

Detailed Commitment Narrative

Please describe in more detail what changes will be made or current practices strengthened to better incentivize or support adaptation that is driven by local stakeholders, to deliver on these principles. Please add rows and additional pages if needed. Note this is voluntary, but highly encouraged.

Principle Number	Detail of Implementation
1	Devolved decision making is a feature of Opportunity's microfinance partnership model, where our investees have the responsibility for strategy and operations at a local level. We encourage data-based decision making at a granular level. However, there is work to be done to build local design and decision making into our climate resilience initiatives.
2	Microfinance has some success in reaching marginalised groups and Opportunity has a focus on reaching women. Specifically around climate resilience, our AgFinance team are developing a gender empowerment program for FSP partners and this will be an area of focus for implementation of this principle.

3	Opportunity partners with financial and non-financial institutions for the long-term, but the scale of funding we can raise is sometimes insufficient. We are exploring potential new climate financing options, eg the InsuResilience Investment Fund.
5	Microfinance institutions generally have a limited understanding of climate risks. Opportunity is currently carrying out research in Rwanda on the role that Opportunity and MFI partners can play in better managing and mitigating risk, and promoting climate resilience in clients – we will develop a toolkit from this that will be shared with our MFI partners.
7	Opportunity network – and Microfinance institutions generally – have a reasonable track record in transparent investment management and reporting but this will need to be built into our climate resilience initiatives.
8	MFIs often work as standalone with funders/stakeholders in silos; collaboration for climate resilience will need to be learned and promoted. We will look to build communities of practice and learn from experts working on climate resilience in our areas.

Authorization

By submitting this form, my organization agrees to have its logo publicly listed as endorsing the Principles for Locally Led Adaptation and commits to being part of a learning community of practice on locally led adaptation action. I certify that I am authorized to make this commitment on behalf of my organization.

Signature:

Please send this form and a hi-resolution logo in .ai or .eps format to locallyledadaptation@wri.org